

SECURITY COUNCIL

THE SITUATION IN GUINEA-BISSAU

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIR OF THE GUINEA-BISSAU CONFIGURATION OF THE PEACEBUILDING COMMISSION

H. E. Ambassador Mauro Viera

Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations

14 February 2017

Mr. President,

I would like to start by thanking you for the invitation extended to me in my capacity as Chair of the Guinea-Bissau Configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC). As you are aware, Brazil is currently Chair and a Member-State of the Portuguese-Speaking Countries Community (CPLP), an organization that follows closely the situation in Guinea-Bissau. It is our firm belief that increasing synergies and complementarities among the relevant international partners will be beneficial for an effective peacebuilding endeavour in Guinea Bissau.

I take this opportunity to welcome the Secretary-General for his report on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of UNIOGBIS. I also welcome the briefing made by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNIOGBIS, Mr. Modibo Touré, on the situation on ground, and wish to commend his

Department of Political Affairs, which mentions an exit strategy for the mission. We also acknowledge the challenges posed by transnational organized crime and other emerging threats, as well as the risks posed by the security challenges in the West African sub-region, as underscored by the Secretary-General in his report.

Peacebuilding and sustaining peace are a long-term engagement and a commitment to prevention. As per the 2016 Peacebuilding Architecture Review, the enhanced UN engagement with peacebuilding should aim also at preventing the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict, addressing its root causes, ensuring national reconciliation and moving towards recovery, reconstruction and development. The UN and relevant international partners should remain engaged in their support peacebuilding efforts to build a common vision of a society and ensure that the needs of all segments of the population are taken into account.

Let me reassure you, Mr. President, that the Commission is committed to continuing its assistance towards national reconciliation, recovery and development of Guinea-Bissau. Tomorrow, we will hold a meeting of the PBC country specific configuration to review the outcome of the deliberations of the current meeting of the Security Council and to elaborate on concrete initiatives to support progress in Guinea-Bissau, in close consultation with ECOWAS and UNIOGBIS and the relevant .

Mr. President,

I would like to reiterate the support of the Configuration to the National Conference and its programme for the consolidation of

national peace (Caminhos para a Consolidação da Paz Nacional). In addition, I commend UNIOGBIS for the support it provided for the Organizing Commission for the National Conference with resources provided by the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF).

Local authorities need to put the best interest of the nation above all other considerations. The message that we bring today is simple: all parties must swiftly agree on concrete steps that will enable the implementation of the Six Point road map and the Conakry Agreement. I have full confidence that the political actors of Guinea-Bissau will demonstrate the needed leadership and determination to work together and build a true consensus in support of the aspirations of their people and the nation.

Thank you Mr. President.